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NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

Report of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations on its inter-sessional meeting

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I. MATTERS CALLING FOR ACTION BY THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

1. The Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Review of the arrangements for consultation with non-governmental organizations

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its decision 1993/214 of 12 February 1993 and its resolution 1993/80 of 30 July 1993,

1. Welcomes the progress made in the consideration of this issue;

2. Welcomes and encourages further active participation of non-governmental organizations, including those from developing countries, in the work of the Open-ended Working Group on the Review of Arrangements for Consultations with Non-Governmental Organizations;

3. Commends the Secretary-General for the report on the general review of arrangements for consultation with non-governmental organizations 1/ and requests the Working Group to continue to take into account the questions and issues raised in it;

4. Takes note with satisfaction of the report of the Open-ended Working Group on the Review of Arrangements for Consultations with Non-Governmental Organizations on its first session; 2/

5. Encourages the Working Group to build upon the work of its first session, as described in its report;

6. Considers that the summary prepared by the Chairman of the Working Group 3/ will greatly facilitate further consideration of this question by the Working Group;

7. Decides that the Working Group will hold an informal inter-sessional meeting in 1994 and its second session early in 1995;

8. Requests the Secretary-General to disseminate as broadly as possible among the non-governmental community the report of the Working Group and the documentation for the Working Group, in all the official languages of the United Nations, and to ensure that non-governmental organizations, including those from

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1/ E/AC.70/1994/5 and Add.1.

2/ A/49/215-E/1994/99.

3/ Ibid., annex.

developing countries, are made fully aware in good time of the dates of the sessions of the Working Group so as to permit the widest possible participation of non-governmental organizations in its work;

9. Requests the Working Group to submit the report on its second session to the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 1995, and invites the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations, at its regular session in 1995, to transmit its comments on that report to the Council at that session.

II. REVIEW OF THE ARRANGEMENTS FOR CONSULTATION WITH NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

2. The Committee considered item 2 of its agenda at its 1st and 2nd meetings, on 13 and 14 July 1994. It had before it the report of the Open-ended Working Group on the Review of Arrangements for Consultations with Non-Governmental Organizations on its first session (A/49/215-E/1994/99).

3. At its 1st meeting, on 13 July, statements were made by the representatives of Ireland, Cuba, Sweden, Costa Rica, France, Iraq and the Russian Federation and the observers for India, Canada, Pakistan and the United States of America.

4. The observer for the Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations in Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council made a statement.

5. At the 2nd meeting, on 14 July, the Committee had before it a draft proposal entitled "Review of the arrangements for consultation with non-governmental organizations", submitted by the Chairman on the basis of informal consultations (E/C.2/1994/L.1).

6. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted the draft proposal (see sect. I, draft resolution).

7. Before the adoption of the draft proposal, statements were made by the representatives of Costa Rica and Oman.

III. ORGANIZATION OF THE SESSION

A. Opening and duration of the session

8. The Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations held an inter-sessional meeting at United Nations Headquarters on 13 and 14 July 1994, in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1993/80 of 30 July 1993. The meeting was opened by Mrs. Ruth Limjuco (Philippines), Chairman of the Committee.

B. Attendance

9. The representatives of the following States members of the Committee attended: Burundi, Chile, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Ethiopia, France, Iraq,

Ireland, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Oman, Philippines, Russian Federation, Sudan and Sweden.

10. The following States Members of the United Nations were represented by observers: Australia, Canada, Germany, India, Pakistan, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America.

11. The following non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council attended the session:

Category I: International Alliance of Women-Equal Rights, Equal Responsibilities, International Chamber of Commerce, International Confederation of Free Trade Unions, Rotary International, Soroptimist International and World Federation of United Nations Associations.

Category II: American Association of Retired Persons, Baha'i International Community, Friends World Committee for Consultation, International Federation of Settlements and Neighborhood Centers, St. Joan's International Alliance, World Federalist Movement and World Union of Catholic Women's Organizations.

Roster: Women's Environment and Development Organization.

C. Agenda

12. At the 1st meeting, on 13 July, the Committee adopted the provisional agenda contained in document E/C.2/1994/1. The agenda was as follows:

1. Adoption of the agenda.

2. Review of the arrangements for consultation with non-governmental organizations.

3. Adoption of the report of the Committee.

D. Documentation

13. The Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Open-ended Working Group on the Review of Arrangements for Consultations with Non-Governmental Organizations on its first session (A/49/215-E/1994/99);

(b) Provisional annotated agenda (E/C.2/1994/1);

(c) Draft proposal submitted by the Chairman on the basis of informal consultations (E/C.2/1994/L.1).

(d) Draft report (E/C.2/1994/L.2).